



In this issue...book reviews, movie reviews, and more

## Redcoats Mourn Coach Day

By Jake Holmes  
Redcoat Review

On February 22, 2018, Berlin and all of Connecticut lost a wrestling icon. Jim Day died at age 64, and Berlin is mourning the loss.



Coach Jim Day

Day came to Berlin High School (BHS) in 1976 as a special education teacher. Day was a phenomenal wrestler, competing at Central Connecticut and also being inducted into the National Wrestling Hall of Fame and the Berlin Athletic Hall of Fame.

Day began coaching wrestling for BHS in 1981. Day also coached for the football team for a while as well, but wrestling was always his main focus. That was

shown by nine straight state championship winners, 20 conference titles, and four New England champions.

Day retired from coaching in 2007. He went off on a high note; his son Shane Day won Class L and the State Open in 2007. However, Coach Day returned to coaching on the mat in 2011. He returned for the kids, knowing that they needed him and he needed them.

Day's impact on Berlin High was staggering. The amount of care and though he put into each action was shown at his wake. A huge majority of Berlin attended the wake and even many others from out of town.

Junior wrestler Daniel Veilas explained Day's impact. Veilas stated, "His amount of care was off the charts... his care and passion stand out." Veilas wrestled under Day all of his high school career and had a close relationship with

**"His amount of care was off the charts... his care and passion stand out." Junior Daniel Veilas on Coach Jim Day.**

him. When asked what's the one thing that he'll remember about Coach Day, Veilas responded, "His passion for everything... he was such an intense guy... he put 100% effort into his wrestlers."

Day wasn't just a good coach; he was a great person. He wasn't a coach that only cared for his sport, but his wrestlers' personal lives as well.

Jim Day will be missed by Berlin High and every person that has crossed paths with him. That was just the type of person he was. His impact on students and others could never be replicated. RIP Jim Day.

## Budget Top Priority for Board of Education

By Samuel Turgeon  
Redcoat Review Writer

On February 12th, 2018, a Berlin Board of Education meeting was held during which the 2018-2019 educational budget was discussed. The Board of Education (BOE) is requesting a 4.3% increase, with some of the budget drivers being employee benefits and transportation.

At Berlin High School (BHS), the BOE was requesting the addition of one Guidance counselor and a part-time special education reading helper.

In addition, the reductions at each



Photo Credit: Samuel Turgeon

The Board Of Education presents the 2018-19 budget to the public.

school were also listed. At the elementary school the BOE is proposing to eliminate some paraprofessionals, team leader positions, technol-

ogy and supplies, one grade 3 teacher from Willard, as well as eliminating all assistant principal positions.

At McGee they propose to eliminate department heads, a clerical position, and technology and supplies. Over the past 5 years the reductions of 8.6 teachers have occurred at the middle school.

At BHS they propose to eliminate 2 teachers, .8 clerical positions, 1 security guard, as well as a reduction in technology and supplies.

At the central office, there will be a reduction in both the Superintendents and Assistant Superintendents salaries as compared to last years.



# Legally Blonde thrills audience

By Haley Cox

Redcoat Review Writer

Pink, humorous, inspiring: these are just some of the words used by the cast to describe this year's musical, Legally Blonde.

This year's production ran from March 2nd-March 4th, directed by Mr. Boyle and starring the students of Berlin High School.

The musical was filled with terrific singing and dancing. When Caroline Daigle, senior, a sorority sister in the

musical, was asked to explain what the musical was about she said, "It's about Elle Woods' quest to become a lawyer just to get back a guy at Harvard Law School. She ends up finding a lot more. It's really like an empowering girl story."

The cast, crew, pit band, Mr. Boyle, Mr. Sirois, and everyone else involved has put in so much hard work, creating an amazing musical.

Congratulations to all of those involved on a fantastic show!



Photo Credit: Courtesy of BHS

The BHS musical was a big hit with large crowds for all three performances.

## Club Feature - DECA

By Hannah Smolicz and

Gabby Pattavina

Special to the Redcoat Review

Distributive Education Clubs of America (DECA) is an international business club that provides business students in high school and college the ability to participate in fun field trips, international competitions, fundraisers, and the experience of working in the school store. Students learn about marketing, accounting, business law, personal finance, and entrepreneurship.

Even if you do not think you are interested in business, you never know until you have real life experience. Your own peers have had experiences that have allowed them to find new interests, and have given them the opportunity to travel for international competition in different states, such as California.

If you are interested, contact Mrs. Wischert or Mr. Parisi in room 1204 or through email. There is even an opportunity to become a state member. We hope to see you soon!

# Bright Eyes Full of Emotion

By Donald Roski

Redcoat Review Writer

Bright Eyes is a band that one cannot ignore when analyzing '90s through '00s independent artists and groups, simply for the emotion that is shown throughout all of their projects.

'I'm Wide Awake It's Morning' was released January 25, 2005 under the Saddle Creek label. The introductory track, "At the Bottom of Everything," begins with a spoken word story, soon overtaken by a quickly strummed acoustic guitar and the lead man Conor Oberst's iconic singing voice, characterized as having a genuine, emotional quality to it.

All tracks in the record are led in the mix by an acoustic or electric slide guitar, and paired with the overall warm sound

and genuine lyrics and delivery, making for an intimate experience while listening. To say the lyrics are all upbeat would be lying; however, there is a certain fun to be had with many of the tracks, such as the fast paced "Another Travelin' Song," which talks about the woes of being a travelling musician with an eye for the troubles in the world.

The lyrics of the tracks on this album can easily be related to 2018, and many people, teens, young adults, or even those that are older can relate to the words that Oberst has wrote and sang on the record.

To say this album is overlooked is kind of an understatement, but nonetheless, it is well worth a listen, along with the rest of the Bright Eyes and Conor Oberst discographies.

# Book to Film Worth Watching

By Ting Fisher

Redcoat Review Writer

A Walk to Remember is the story of two teens in the state of North Carolina, who couldn't be any more different. Landon Carter, who is a troublemaker, gets thrown together with Jamie Sullivan, a principled priest's daughter. Defying the odds of the social ladder, Jamie and Landon fall for each other.

This coming of age movie is based off of Nicholas Sparks' novel. The romance of Jamie and Landon are innocent but because of the experiences they went through, they learn things that a person in a lifetime couldn't have learned.

A Walk to Remember is a movie that brings a cute but emotional relationship that is one of the greatest love stories of all time.

# Rebuilding year for Redcoats

By Jake Holmes

Redcoat Review Writer

The Redcoats were a young team, and statistically, it showed. Two out of the top three scorers were juniors, with Gianni Fanelli averaging 11.4 points per game (ppg) and Holden Murphy averaging 10.3 ppg. Fanelli also led the team in steals, 33 in 21 games.

The leading assist man on the team was Hyde, a junior point guard, averaging 6.6 a game. However, the seniors carried their weight too. The Redcoats' leading scorer was senior Mike McCarthy, averaging 13 ppg. McCarthy was a limitless range shooter, standing at 6'4". McCarthy was dangerous when he caught heat. His height helped him get off many contested threes. McCarthy also helped the Redcoats by grabbing in close to 4 rebounds per game.

Senior forward and center Dylan Frisk was the leading rebounder on the team, averaging 6.4 rpg. Frisk was a tenacious rebounder with a jump shot as well.

Senior guard Mike Constantine exploded for 27 points in the first game of the season. Constantine's passing ability was fantastic and has showed on multiple occasions throughout the season.

The Redcoats had many close games throughout this season. One thriller was in Bristol Eastern, which ended in a game winning three-pointer. Hyde drove into the lane and made a bullet pass to the corner. McCarthy, left open in a corner, three hit the dagger to bring a win back to Berlin. But in basketball, you can't win them all. Mike McCarthy stated, "I was missing shots all game and I knew I had to hit it." This exemplifies the type of player McCarthy is. Even when his shot wasn't feeling right, he knew he had to take and make the big one. McCarthy gave props to junior guard Ryan Hyde by



Photo Credit: Courtesy of BHS

Pictured Back: Senior Mike Constantine, Junior Holden Murphy, Junior Ryan Hyde, Senior Mike McCarthy, Junior Alex Halkias, Junior Giancarlo Tufano, Junior John Addamo  
Pictured Front: Senior T.J Beardsley, Senior Anthony Veneziano, Senior Dylan Frisk, Senior Nick Carroll, Junior Gianni Fanelli

saying, "It just happened to go that way and Ryan made a great play to get me open."

The Redcoats took a tough loss to Middletown. The Redcoats battled the whole game and should have ended up with a win. But when it was crunch time, the Redcoats couldn't pull through. A questionable call from the referee did not help, but two missed free throws at the end of the game that would have tied the game did not go in their favor.

The Redcoats pulled together the 8 necessary wins to qualify for the playoffs. The Redcoats tried to make a run with the young team, but were stopped by Southington on March 5th. The final score was 56-52 in overtime.

The Redcoats had a solid season, but Coach Veneziano and Berlin will be back and better next year. Hyde, Fanelli, Murphy, along with Giancarlo Tufano, Alex Halkias, and John Addamo will all be returning for the Redcoats next

season. Hopefully, the offseason will be successful and each player can improve their game. There will also be more young players that will make an impact on the team. Zach Hrubiec, Paul D'Amore, and Camden Murphy all sit on the bench for this Varsity team, but definitely will get minutes next season.

## Meet Our Staff

The Redcoat Review writing team includes freshmen Ting Fisher and Samuel Turgeon, sophomore Jake Holmes, junior Connor Recck, and seniors Hannah and Haley Cox, and Donald Roski. Advisors are Mrs. Rice and Ms. Briganti.

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